(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) A scheme for dealing with the problem of shifting cultivation with 100 per cent Central assistance to State Plan has been introduced from the current year in nine States. Terrace Agriculture is one of the components of this scheme.

(b) Under this scheme it is proposed to permanently settle 25,000 jhumia families with an outlay of Rs. 75 crores spread over a period of five years starting from 1987-88. An outlay of Rs. 45 crores has been approved for the last three years (1987-88 to 1989-90) of the Seventh Plan.

The scheme envisages integrated development of selected villages on watershed basis and providing assistance for:

(i) development of land for permanent cultivation with bench terracing, bunding, etc.;

(ii) irrigation facilities wherever feasible;

(iii) necessary inputs for raising agriculture horticulture and plantation crops;

(iv) raising fuel and fodder plantations to meet the requirement of the village community;

(v) Subsidiary occupations like piggery, poultry, pisaculture, sericulture etc.

(vi) Protection of the watershed through appropriate soil and water conservation measures· and

(vii) essential infrastructure required for implementing the programme.

Allotment of Houses for Artists

*516. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA· Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for allotment of houses for artists under cultural quota; and

(b) if so, what is the number of persons still waiting for allotment of houses after the Department of Culture has recently made the usual recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) 12.

Circular Railway Line for Hyderabad

@*517. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA· Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a circular railway line for Hyderabad; and

(b) whether any representation have been received by the Central Government for such a line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) South Central Railway had carried out a preliminary techno-economic feasibility study of cilcular and allied rail transit system for Hyderabad Metropolitan area and a copy of the study report was forwarded to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in November, 1984 Based on the recommendations in the report the Government of Andhra Pradesh have written to the Government of India to consider the project.

@Previously Starred Question 477, transferred from the 9th December, 1987.